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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)				
Office Action Commence	10/566,943	KATO ET AL.				
Office Action Summary	Examiner	Art Unit				
	PHY ANH VU	2437				
The MAILING DATE of this communic Period for Reply	cation appears on the cover sheet v	vith the correspondence ac	ddress			
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOWHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MA - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this community. If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum state - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply within the set o	AILING DATE OF THIS COMMUN of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a unication. The properties of the properties	ICATION. The reply be timely filed ONTHS from the mailing date of this of the case of th				
Status						
1) Responsive to communication(s) filed	d on					
	b)☐ This action is non-final.					
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closed in accordance with the practic	· ·	·				
Disposition of Claims		,				
· _	application					
4) Claim(s) is/are pending in the application.4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdrawn from consideration.						
5) Claim(s) is/are allowed.	5 Withdrawii Holli consideration.					
6) Claim(s) is/are rejected.						
7) Claim(s) is/are objected to.						
8) Claim(s) are subject to restrict	ion and/or election requirement					
o, are subject to resure	ion ana, or olookon roquiromonic.					
Application Papers						
9)☐ The specification is objected to by the	Examiner.					
10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on is/are:	a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to	by the Examiner.				
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).						
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).						
11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.						
Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119						
12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f). a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:						
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.						
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No						
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage						
application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).						
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.						
Attachment(s)						
1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)						
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application						
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application 6) Other:						

DETAILED ACTION

This communication is responsive to the amendment filed on 4/27/2009.

Claims 1-16 are pending.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 4/27/2009 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

On page 10, applicant argues that Fraser fails to disclose or suggest a program or any other information arranged to be "stored in the non-volatile memory" which is executed by the client device for "constituting the communication channel between the client device and the server" as recited by claim 1.

In response, the Examiner respectfully submits that Fraser discloses the feature of the client device is configured to constitute the communication channel between the client device and the server by executing the program stored in the non-volatile memory area of the storage medium for the following reasons:

First of all, a storage medium can be interpreted to be the card reader together with the smart card as an integrated unit. As such, at least the ROM memory in the card reader is interpreted as the non-volatile memory area. According to Fraser, at least in column 12, lines 12-20 and further describes in fig. 1, Fraser discloses a software running in the protected storage memory (e.g. ROM) on the card reader. The said software obviously corresponds to the recited program since the execution of the program is followed by at least transmission of encrypted messages to the server by the

client computer (in Fraser, the encrypted message is sent to the server via the client computer). Therefore, by execution of the program, the client device is configured to constitute the communication between the server and the client device by establishing the VPN.

Further, the Examiner respectfully submits that the claim does not recite the client device constitutes such communication channel by executing the program's instructions directly using its own microprocessors and internal memory. Therefore, the scope of the claim is still broad enough to be read on by the feature disclosed in Fraser. In Fraser, the client computer is disclosed to constitute the communication channel by executing the program in a distributed manner or indirectly via an intermediate means.

As such, in contrast with Applicant's arguments, Fraser clearly discloses the feature of " the client device is configured to constitute the communication channel between the client device and the server by executing the program stored in the non-volatile memory area of the storage medium."

Also on page 10, with respect to claim 9, Applicant argues, "Fraser fails to disclose or suggest any boot program to be read from a storage medium and executed on a client device." In response, the Examiner respectfully disagrees. Previously presented claim 9 recited the boot program together with only one functionality when it is executed: to start a driving process. In Fraser, the program, which is the software running in the ROM of the integrated storage medium, when executed, configures the client computer to establish a VPN, which is an operational environment of network elements. It is noted that the process of establishing an operational environment is

clearly a <u>driving process</u>. Since the program disclosed by Fraser can start a driving process, it is a boot program.

However, the newly amended claim 9 necessitates new ground of rejection as described in details below.

Examiner Notes

Examiner cites particular columns and line numbers in the references as applied to the claims below for the convenience of the applicant. Although the specified citations are representative of the teachings in the art and are applied to the specific limitations within the individual claim, other passages and figures may apply as well. It is respectfully requested that, in preparing responses, the applicant fully consider the references in entirety as potentially teaching all or part of the claimed invention, as well as the context of the passage as taught by the prior art or disclosed by the examiner

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

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Claims 1, 5, 9-10, 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Fraser (US 6,895,502 B1).

Regarding claim 1, Fraser discloses a remote access system comprising:
a server (Fig. 1, element 12; Col 5, lines 8, 58; host computer or server);
a client (Fig. 1, element 14; Col 5, line 8; Col 8, line 38, client computer);
device for conducting remote access to the server via a communication channel
constituted between the client device and the server (Fig. 1, element 15; Col 8, lines 3843, LAN or WAN; Internet); and

a storage medium comprising an anti-tampering memory area for storing authentication information used to constitute the communication channel and conduct the remote access (Col 9, lines 7-9, 37-54; Col 11, lines 25-27; Nonvolatile storage (e.g., hard disk) and tamper-resistant packaging, which corresponds to anti-tampering memory area that contains private key of the client user); and a non-volatile memory area for storing a program (Col 8, line 64-67; Col 9, lines1-6,the program memory stores program which is executed in ROM to protect from unauthorized modification), the storage medium being connected to the client device (Fig. 1, lines 12-16; wherein the smart card which corresponds to the storage medium is being connected to the client computer via a communication medium or pathway; also see "Response to Arguments" above),

wherein

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the storage medium comprises a common interface to be used by the client device to access the anti-tampering memory area and the non-volatile memory area (Fig 1, element 20; Col 9, lines 55-60; Reader) and

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the client device is configured to: (Fig. 1, element 14; Col 7, lines 30-31; Col 8, line 38; terminal or computer)

access the anti-tampering memory area and the non-volatile memory area via the common interface in the storage medium (Fig 1, element 20; Col 9, lines 55-60; Reader)

constitute the communication channel between the client device and the server by executing a program stored in the non-volatile memory area and by using the authentication information stored in the anti-tampering memory area (*Col 12, lines 4-20, wherein a communication channel is established between server and client device*)

conduct remote access to the server via the communication channel (*Fig. 1, element 15; Col 8, lines 38-43; internet*).

Regarding claim 5, Fraser also discloses the remote access system according to claim 1, wherein the client device is configured to store temporary data generated when executing a program in the client device, in the non–volatile memory area of storage medium (*Col 8*, *lines 59-63; RAM*).

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Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 2-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fraser.

Regarding claim 2, Fraser discloses the remote access system according to claim 1, wherein when access to the non-volatile memory area and access to the anti-tampering memory area conducted via the common interface in the storage medium compete with each other the client device is configured to control the competition (Col 6, lines 40-53, wherein client device accesses a resource. This implies that the client device has the capabilities to control which area of the resource it accesses first)

It is also obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art that when there are conflicting accesses to a common resource in a computer system that does not support parallel accesses, the computer system must have a mechanism that lines up the requests to access the resource, so that only one request will be executed at a time. Request with higher priority will be given access first.

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One of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made would have been motivated to incorporate this feature into the teachings of Fraser because it would provide for higher security in accessing the host computer or server (Col 4, lines 64-67; Col 5, lines 1-4).

Regarding claim 3, Fraser also discloses the remote access system according to claim 2, wherein the client device is configured to control the competition by conducting access to the non-volatile memory area and access to the anti-tampering memory area to be conducted via the common interface in the storage medium in a predetermined order (Col 6, lines 40-53; Col 8, lines 64-67; Col 9, lines 1-9, wherein since the client device has control over the competition, and authentication information is needed from the anti-tampering area to authenticate the client device before access to the server resource is given. Clearly, access to the anti-tampering area has priority over access to the non-volatile area, thus the anti-tampering area will be accessed first. This shows the predetermined order of accessing to the memory areas of the storage medium)

It is also obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art that when there are conflicting accesses to a common resource in a computer system that does not support parallel accesses, the computer system must have a mechanism that lines up the requests to access the resource, so that only one request will be executed at a time. Request with higher priority will be given access first.

One of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made would have been motivated to incorporate this feature into the teachings of Fraser because it would provide for higher security in accessing the host computer or server (Col 4, lines 64-67; Col 5, lines 1-4).

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Regarding claim 4, Fraser also discloses the remote access system according to claim 3, wherein the client device is configured to control the competition by executing access to the anti-tampering memory area to be conducted via the common interface in the storage medium in preference to access to the non-volatile memory area (Col 6, lines 40-53; Col 8, lines 64-67; Col 9, lines 1-9, 37-54, wherein in order for the client device to have access to the server resources, the client device must first be authorized using the authentication information stored in the anti-tampering area. This clearly shows that access to the anti-tampering memory area has higher priority than access to the non-volatile area, thus access to the anti-tampering should be accessed in preference to access to the non-volatile area)

It is also obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art that when there are conflicting accesses to a common resource in a computer system that does not support parallel accesses, the computer system must have a mechanism that lines up the requests to access the resource, so that only one request will be executed at a time. Request with higher priority will be given access first.

One of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made would have been motivated to incorporate this feature into the teachings of Fraser because it would provide for higher security in accessing the host computer or server (Col 4, lines 64-67; Col 5, lines 1-4).

Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fraser, and further in view of Knegendorf et al (US 2003/0040929 A1, hereinafter Knegendorf).

Regarding claim 6, Fraser discloses the remote access system according to claim 1, wherein the non-volatile memory area in the storage medium is configured so as to be able to be accessed by the client device faster than the anti-tampering memory area (Col 9, lines 1-9, wherein accessing to ROM is faster than accessing to anti-tampering memory area i.e. hard disk)

Fraser does not disclose the storage medium retains a copy of the authentication information stored in the anti-tampering area, in the non-volatile memory area in the storage medium and the client device is configured to utilize the copied authentication information instead of the authentication information stored in the anti-tampering area.

However, Knegendorf discloses copying content data from one storage area (nonvolatile) to another storage area (volatile) and the user utilizes the copied content data (volatile) instead of the original content data ([0145], this is because storing data in

a volatile memory makes access to data faster). It is also known in the art to retain a copy of the information in the non-volatile area because accessing data from a faster volatile memory involves the risk of information loss in case of a power outage or volatile memory failure, so it is common practice to keep a copy of data in a non-volatile memory while the information is accessed from the faster volatile memory)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify this feature of Knegendorf into the teachings of Fraser because it would provide for faster access to the information ([0145]).

Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fraser, and further in view of Ugajin (US 5,652,892).

Regarding claim 7, Fraser discloses the remote access system according to claim 1 (*Fig. 1, remote access system*),

Fraser does not disclose a controller connected to the server and the client device to manage a power supply of the server, wherein the client device is configured to access the controller and conducts power supply management of the server to be subject to the remote access.

However, Ugajin discloses a controller connected to the server and the client device to manage a power supply of the server (*Figs. 9 & 10*), wherein the client device accesses the controller and conducts power supply management of the server to be

subject to the remote access (Figs. 9 & 10; Col 6, lines 28-34, wherein the client device controls the power source of the server).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Ugajin into the teachings of Fraser because it would provide for a remote power source control method and apparatus capable of controlling remote power sources independently of network architectures. (Col 1, lines 60-63)

Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fraser, and further in view of Gould et al (US 6,920,561 B1, hereinafter Gould).

Regarding claim 8, Fraser discloses the remote access system according to claim 1, wherein the storage medium is connected to the client device (*Fig. 1, lines 12-16; wherein the smartcard which corresponds to the storage medium is being connected to the client computer via a communication medium or pathway*),

client device for conducting remote access to the server via a communication channel constituted between the client device and the server (*Fig. 1, elements 14, 15*; Col 5, lines 8; *Col 8, lines 38-43, LAN or WAN; Internet*);

remote access conducted by the client device using the communication channel (Fig. 1, element 15; Col 8, lines 38-43; internet).

Fraser does not disclose the client device deletes information concerning the remote access.

However, Gould discloses the client device deletes information concerning the remote access (Col 5, lines 44-47, wherein, the user credentials are deleted by the client device at the end of the session, which implies that communication is finished, and the connection between the client device and storage medium is canceled).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Gould into the teachings of Fraser because it would provide for the benefits and advantage of having a centralized entity to manage and control of all identification and credentials services (*Col 5, lines 48-64*).

Claims 9-10 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fraser, and further in view of Kimura et al. (US 2004/0186961 – hereinafter Kimura).

Regarding claim 9, Fraser discloses a remote access system comprising: a server (Fig. 1, element 12; Col 5, lines 8, 58; host computer or server): a client device for conducting remote access to the server via a communication channel constituted between the client device and the server (Fig. 1, elements 14, 15; Col 5, lines 8; Col 8, lines 38-43, LAN or WAN; Internet);

a storage medium comprising an anti-tampering memory area for storing authentication information to constitute the communication channel and conduct the remote access (Col 9, lines 37-54; Col 11, lines 25-27; tamper-resistant packaging, which corresponds to anti-tampering memory area that contains private key of the client

user); and a non-volatile memory area for storing a program to be executed when the client device is driven (*Col 12, lines 12-15*), wherein the storage medium comprises a common interface to be used by the client device to access the anti-tampering memory area and the non-volatile memory area (*Fig 1, element 20; Col 9, lines 55-60; Reader*)

and the client device is configured to (Fig. 1, element 14; Col 7, lines 30-31; Col 8, line 38; terminal or computer):

access the anti-tampering memory area and the non-volatile memory area via the common interface of the storage medium (Fig 1, element 20; Col 9, lines 55-60; Reader);

constitute the communication channel between the client device and the server by executing a program stored in the non-volatile memory area and the authentication information stored in the anti-tampering memory area after the client device is driven (Col 12, lines 4-20, wherein a communication channel is established between server and client device; also see "Response to Arguments" above); and

conduct remote access to the server via the communication channel (*Fig. 1, element 15; Col 8, lines 38-43; internet*).

However, Fraser does not disclose a boot program stored in the non-volatile memory to be executed when the client is driven and the client device is configured to start a driving process by executing the boot program stored in the storage medium.

Kimura discloses a boot program stored in the non-volatile memory to be executed when the client is driven (*Fig. 1; [0065]*) and the client device is configured to start a driving process by executing the boot program stored in the storage medium (*Fig. 1; [0065]; [0069]*).

One of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made would have been motivated to incorporate the teachings of Kimura into the remote access system disclosed by Fraser in order to enhance the security level over the system (Kimura, column 1, lines 5-8)

Regarding claim 10, Fraser also discloses the remote access system according to claim 9, wherein when access to the non-volatile memory area and access to the anti-tampering memory area conducted via the common interface in the storage medium compete with each other, the client device is configured to control the competition (Col 6, lines 40-53, wherein in order for the client device to access the server resources, the client device is required to provide authorized information i.e., private key, which is retrieved from the anti-tampering memory by the client device. This implies that the client device has the capabilities to control which memory areas to access first in order to get the authorized information).

Regarding claim 12, Fraser discloses the remote access system according to claim 9, wherein the client device comprises a display means (*Fig 1, element 22; Col 9, lines 23-36, display unit*); and a screen view is displayed on the display means to request a user to input authentication information required when constituting the

communication channel (Fig 2, element 51; Col 12, lines 23-28, 47-50, 53-55, 61-64; Col 13, lines 30-35; wherein, the system prompts user to enter identification information and confirmation that user did make the request, which implies that there is a screen view, where user can visibly see the prompts and able to input the information the system requires).

Claims 11, 13, 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fraser and Kimura and further in view of Yoon et al (US 6,088,794, hereinafter Yoon).

Regarding claim 11, Kimura discloses the remote access system according to claim 10 wherein the storage medium stores an OS program to be used to drive the client device (Fig. 1; [0065]; [0069]).

Fraser and Kimura do not disclose a switch is provided to set whether to drive the client device by using the OS program or drive the client device without using the OS program.

However, Yoon discloses a switch is provided to set whether to drive the device by using the OS program or drive the device without using the OS program. (Fig 2, Col 6, lines 19-24, 50-54; Fig 3, element 21; Col 6, lines 55-67; Col 7, lines 1-5, wherein a switch unit in a selective booting function is used to select different OS program to boot the system)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Yoon into the teachings of Fraser and Kimura because it would provide for an improved computer system capable of selective booting from multiple disk drives. (*Col 1, lines 39-52; Col 2, lines 32-35*)

Regarding claim 13, Fraser and Kimura disclose the remote access system according to claim 11,

Fraser and Kimura do not disclose when it is set in the switch to drive the client device without using the OS program stored in the storage medium, the client device is configured to acquire the setting from the storage medium, execute an OS program previously stored in the client device instead of the OS program stored in the storage medium, and conduct the driving.

It is obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art that the client device acquires the setting from the storage medium in order to get access to the storage medium under the selected operating system.

However, Yoon discloses when it is set in the switch to drive the client device without using the OS program stored in the storage medium, executes an OS program previously stored in the client device instead of the OS program stored in the storage medium, and conducts the driving (Fig 6, elements S32-S37, Col 10, lines 36-55, wherein when a determination is made to boot the first hard disk drive, the first hard disk drive is reset, following a booting operation is performed from the first hard disk drive.

When the first hard disk drive is not selected, the second hard disk drive is reset, and booting from the second hard disk drive operation is performed.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Yoon into the teachings of Fraser and Kimura because it would provide for an improved computer system capable of selective booting from multiple disk drives. (*Col 1, lines 39-52; Col 2, lines 32-35*)

Regarding claim 14, Fraser and Kimura disclose the remote access system according to claim 10, wherein

the storage medium is connected to the client device via a reader/writer of the storage medium (*Kimura: Fig. 1; [0065]; [0069]*), and

the storage medium stores an OS program to be used to drive the client device (Kimura: Fig. 1; [0065]; [0069]), and

Fraser and Kimura do not disclose the reader/writer comprises a switch to set whether to drive the client device by using the OS program or drive the client device without using the OS program.

However, Yoon discloses a switch is provided to set whether to drive the device by using the OS program or drive the device without using the OS program. (Fig 2, Col 6, lines 19-24, 50-54; Fig 3, element 21; Col 6, lines 55-67; Col 7, lines 1-5, wherein a switch unit in a selective booting function is used to select different OS program to boot the system)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Yoon into the teachings of Fraser and Kimura because it would provide for an improved computer system capable of selective booting from multiple disk drives. (*Col 1, lines 39-52; Col 2, lines 32-35*).

Claims 15 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fraser and Kimura, and further in view of Golding et al (US 5,265,163, hereinafter Golding).

Regarding claim 15, Fraser and Kimura disclose the remote access system according to claim 9, wherein the client device is further configured to;

store an OS program to be used to drive the client device, in a storage device provided in the client device (*Fraser: Fig 1, element 30, client software*);

execute a boot program stored in the storage medium (*Kimura: Fig. 1; [0065];* [0069]); and

authentication information stored in the storage medium (*Fraser: Col 9, lines 7-9, wherein private key which corresponds to authentication information is stored on the smartcard*)

Fraser and Kimura do not disclose determine whether access restriction is set in the storage device provided in the client device, and

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when the access restriction is set and the access restriction can be canceled, the client device is driven by canceling the access restriction and executing the OS program stored in the storage device.

However, Golding discloses determine whether access restriction is set in the storage device provided in the client device (*Col 2, lines 18-27, wherein a password from the user is required before accessing is granted*), and

when the access restriction is set and the access restriction can be canceled (*Col 2, lines 18-27, wherein when the correct password from the user is entered, access to computer functions is granted, thus access restriction is canceled*), the client device is driven by canceling the access restriction and executing the OS program stored in the storage device (*Col 2, lines 18-27, wherein once access is granted, the system is permitted to boot using the OS program stored in the storage device*).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Golding into the teachings of Fraser and Kimura because it would provide for the prevention of contamination by computer viruses (*Col 1, lines 59-68; Col 2, lines 1-15*).

Regarding claim 16, Fraser and Kimura discloses the remote access system according to claim 15, wherein the storage medium stores an OS program to be used to drive the client device (*Kimura: Fig. 1; [0065]; [0069]*), and

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the client device is driven by executing the OS program stored in the storage medium (*Kimura: Fig. 1; [0065]; [0069]*)

Fraser does not disclose when the access restriction cannot be canceled

However, Golding discloses when access restriction cannot be canceled (Col

2, lines 18-27, wherein a password from the user is required prior to access is granted
to boot the system, so if the incorrect password is entered, access will not be granted,
thus, the access restriction cannot be canceled)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Golding into the teachings of Fraser and Kimura because it would provide for the prevention of contamination by computer viruses (*Col 1, lines 59-68; Col 2, lines 1-15*).

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Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to PHY ANH VU whose telephone number is (571)270-7317. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thr 7:30-5:00 EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Emmanuel Moise can be reached on 571-272-3865. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/PHY ANH VU/ Examiner, Art Unit 2437

/Emmanuel L. Moise/ Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2437